

§ 16.1

12 CFR Ch. I (1–1–04 Edition)

§ 16.1 Authority, purpose, and scope.

(a) *Authority*. This part is issued under the general authority of the national banking laws, 12 U.S.C. 1 *et seq.*, and the OCC's general rulemaking authority in 12 U.S.C. 93a.

(b) *Purpose*. This part sets forth rules governing the offer and sale of securities issued by a bank.

(c) *Scope*. This part applies to offers and sales of bank securities by issuers, underwriters, and dealers.

§ 16.2 Definitions.

For purposes of this part, the following definitions apply:

(a) *Accredited investor* means the same as in Commission Rule 501(a) (17 CFR 230.501(a)).

(b) *Bank* means an existing national bank, a national bank in organization, a bank operating under the Code of Law of the District of Columbia, or a federal branch or agency of a foreign bank.

(c) *Commission* means the Securities and Exchange Commission. When used in the rules, regulations, or forms of the Commission referred to in this part, the term "Commission" shall be deemed to refer to the OCC.

(d) *Dealer* means the same as in section 2(12) of the Securities Act (15 U.S.C. 77b(12)).

(e) *Exchange Act* means the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78a through 78jj).

(f) *Insured depository institution* means the same as in section 3(c)(2) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1813(c)(2)).

(g) *Investment grade* means that a security is rated investment grade (i.e., in one of the top four rating categories) by each nationally recognized statistical rating organization that has rated the security.

(h) *Issuer* means a bank that issues or proposes to issue any security.

(i) *Nonconvertible debt* means a general obligation of the bank, whether senior or subordinated, that is not convertible into any class of common or preferred stock or any derivative thereof.

(j) *OCC* means the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency.

(k) *Person* means the same as in section 2(2) of the Securities Act (15 U.S.C. 77b(2)) and includes a bank.

(l) *Prospectus* means an offering document that includes the information required by section 10(a) of the Securities Act (15 U.S.C. 77j(a)).

(m) *Registration statement* means a filing that includes the prospectus and other information required by section 7 of the Securities Act (15 U.S.C. 77g).

(n) *Sale, sell, offer to sell, offer for sale, and offer* mean the same as in section 2(3) of the Securities Act (15 U.S.C. 77b(3)).

(o) *Securities Act* means the Securities Act of 1933 (15 U.S.C. 77a through 77aa).

(p) *Security* means the same as in section 2(1) of the Securities Act (15 U.S.C. 77b(1)).

(q) *Underwriter* means the same as in section 2(11) of the Securities Act (15 U.S.C. 77b(11)). Commission Rules 137, 140, 141, 142, and 144 (17 CFR 230.137, 230.140, 230.141, 230.142, and 230.144) (which apply to section 2(11) of the Securities Act) apply to this part.

§ 16.3 Registration statement and prospectus requirements.

(a) No person shall offer or sell, directly or indirectly, any bank issued security unless:

(1) A registration statement for the security meeting the requirements of § 16.15 of this part has been filed with and declared effective by the OCC pursuant to this part, and the offer or sale is accompanied or preceded by a prospectus that has been filed with and declared effective by the OCC as a part of that registration statement; or

(2) An exemption is available under § 16.5 of this part.

(b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a) of this section, securities of a bank may be offered through the use of a preliminary prospectus before a registration statement and prospectus for the securities have been declared effective by the OCC if:

(1) A registration statement including the preliminary prospectus has been filed with the OCC;

(2) The preliminary prospectus contains the information required by § 16.15 of this part except for the omission of information with respect to the offering price, underwriting discounts